

**FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE**  
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**JOHNSON CITY YOUTH CENTERS AWARDED NATIONAL REACCREDITATION**  
**Awards reflect new DCS pledge of excellence and accountability**

**JOHNSON CITY, TENN.** - The Commission on Accreditation for Corrections (CAC) and the American Correctional Association (ACA) recently reaccredited the Johnson City Observation and Assessment Center and the Johnson City Boys Group Home, both owned and operated by the Tennessee Department of Children's Services.

Granted in mid-January, the three-year accreditation awards are based on professional peer reviews by national leaders in the fields of law, corrections, health care and other stakeholder groups.

Standards used for accreditation address services, programs, and operations essential to good management. They include administrative and fiscal controls, staff training, physical plant, safety and emergency procedures, sanitation, food service, and rules of discipline. In order to maintain accreditation, a facility must comply with all applicable mandatory standards and at least 90 percent of the non-mandatory standards.

"The practice of meeting the ACA's high performance standards is well established among all of our residential facilities," said Commissioner Viola Miller. "I am proud to say that each of our four correctional facilities and 13 group homes statewide have consistently received audit compliance ratings of 98 percent or above."

The Johnson City Observation and Assessment Center is a fifteen-bed facility providing temporary services for youth and supplying area juvenile courts with detailed assessment of each resident, enabling the courts to make more informed evaluations of juvenile cases. The Johnson City Boys Group Home is a residential facility, which traditionally serves area male youth by providing a secure home environment. Both centers contain in-house schools, and provide residents with counseling programs and necessary transportation.

More information regarding DCS treatment facilities and group homes can be found by visiting our website at [www.state.tn.us/youth/treatment/index.htm](http://www.state.tn.us/youth/treatment/index.htm) .

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